

## Replacement of Two Preoccupied Names of Tetrigidae (Orthoptera: Acridoidea)

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In a series of papers published within the last ten years Dr. Klaus Günther presented the first three portions<sup>1</sup> of a revision of the grouse-locusts, this group being referred to by him as the Acrydiinae, but which is now considered by most students to represent a valid family of the Acridoidea, for which the name Tetrigidae is used.

In these studies Günther has erected thirty new generic names, eleven of which contain from six to eight syllables. Six have six syllables, four have seven, and one (*Platygavialidium*) has eight. Dr. Jacobus Faure has recently protested<sup>2</sup> against the creation of overly-long generic names, and his comments deserve sympathetic consideration. Too frequently authors utilize the handiest "out," and merely add a prefix or suffix to an existing generic name, usually of a related genus, though occasionally of one in no way closely related to their new entity, but to which the latter has some superficial resemblance. When the previously established name is lengthy, the results are often far from happy, and our already overburdened taxonomic literature is further cluttered up with multisyllabic terms. The increas-

<sup>1</sup> "Revision der Acrydiinae, I. Sectiones Tripetalocerae, Discotettigiae, Lophotettigiae, Cleostratae, Bufonidae, Cladonotae, Scelimenae verae." Mitt. Zool. Mus. Berlin, XXIII, heft 2, pp. 299-437. November 15, 1938.

"Revision der Acrydiinae (Orth.), II. Scelimenae spuriae." Stett. Ent. Zeit., 99, heft II, pp. 117-148, 161-230. June 15, 1938 (pp. 117-148) and December 20, 1938 (pp. 161-230).

"Revision der Acrydiinae (Orthoptera), III. Sectio Amorphopi (Metrosora Bol. 1887, aut.)." Abhandl. und Berichte Staatlichen Museum Tierk. und Völkerk., Dresden, 20, Reihe A: Zool., Neue Folge, Bd. I, heft I, pp. 16-335. December, 1939.

<sup>2</sup> "A Plea for Brevity—and Sanity—in Zoological Nomenclature." Journ. Entom. Soc. So. Africa, IX, pp. 39-44 (1946); Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., (11) XIII, pp. 595-601 (1946).

ing difficulty of locating available generic names is fully realized by all who are acquainted with systematics, but a moderate amount of effort usually produces an available name of reasonable length.

Unfortunately Dr. Günther does not seem to have made a search to determine possible preoccupation of some of his new generic names, as two which he has proposed were employed long prior to his work, and both of these are properly listed in Neave's *Nomenclator Zoologicus*, and Waterhouse's *Index Zoologicus*, 1880-1900. If the former was not available at the time Dr. Günther wrote, the latter certainly was, and the same degree of checking employed by most systematists would have prevented his use of preoccupied names.

The two names referred to are *Thymoites* (Günther, 1939, pp. 26, 224) and *Barytettix* (Günther, 1939, p. 317). The first was properly used for an arachnid genus by Keyserling (*Die Spinnen Amerikas, Theridiidae*, häfte 1, bd. 2, p. 161) in 1884, while *Barytettix* was employed in 1897 for an orthopterous genus by Scudder (*Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci.*, XXXII, pp. 197, 204; *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XX, pp. 10, 27). To replace *Thymoites* Günther, 1939, not of Keyserling, 1884, I here propose *Moluccasia*, the sole species placed in the genus by Günther (*buruanus*) being from the island of Buru, in the Moluccas. In place of *Barytettix* Günther, 1939, not of Scudder, 1897, I propose *Marshallacris*, in honor of Sir Guy A. K. Marshall, the distinguished British entomologist, who collected the type specimen of the genotypic species (*africanus* Hancock) in the course of his extensive African entomological explorations.